

10/27/22 Citizens' Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC)

Meeting Notes

Committee Members Present: Mr. Brian Bondurant, Mr. Gene Johnson, Ms. Leah Mills, Mr. Chris Eudailey, Mr. Chip Hughey

County Staff Present: David Oakley – Budget Manager; Stephanie Davis – Budget Analyst, Karl Leonard – Sheriff, Bailey Hilliard – Inmate Programs Coordinator, Dawn Garrett – Budget Administrator

The meeting was brought to order at 9:00 am

1. Welcome

- a. Approval of August 18, 2022 minutes with one edit requested for language.

2. Sheriff Department Update

- a. Sheriff Leonard began his presentation by introducing himself and the other members of the Sheriff's department in attendance, Bailey Hilliard and Dawn Garrett.
- b. Heroin Addiction Recovery Program (HARP) began 6 years ago and has transitioned to Helping Addicts Recover Progressively (HARP). The program has come a long way in the past year and a new program Support Medically Assisted Rehab Treatment (SMART) has also been developed.
- c. Discovery plus filmed a documentary of the HARP program in the Chesterfield County jail titled "Jail House Redemption" and VCU has done a study of the program.
- d. Clinical staff work with participants to address the trauma beneath their addictions using Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) therapy.
- e. The program assists participants in obtain workforce certifications to get jobs.
- f. The Peer to peer is a foundational piece of the program which utilizes five peer navigators that work in tandem with clinical and jail staff to assist others in recovery.
- g. Medication is seen as the best treatment for substance abuse. In Chesterfield, inmates continue treatment. In some localities inmates are forced to detox while incarcerated.
- h. Chesterfield is leading the way in Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). Currently, facilities must have a doctor with an X waiver to prescribe MAT. The waiver requirement is going away. Under the ADA receiving treatment is a constitutionally protected right.
- i. Mr. Eudailey inquired about how long it takes people to get off a substance with medication assistance. Ms. Hilliard state that it is based on the individual, some will be on medication 2-5 years others can be on for the rest of their life.
- j. The HARP program served 375 individuals between August 2020 - August 2021. Currently, there are approximately people 100 being served daily. The program has a less than 20% recidivism rate.
- k. HARP participants are recovering at higher rate then people in recovery houses because the program is helping identify barriers and finding ways to meet unmet needs.
- l. People voluntarily come participate in programs provided by the Sheriff's office. They can come talk to a peer and get in contact with services in the community. The HARP

program has had 40 people complete 500 hours of clinical work to receive a credential from Department of Behavioral Health and many are working in in the community as Recovery Specialist. Chesterfield is the only jail in VA that has this program.

- m. Mr. Hughey requested additional information on the cost of program and how many people are supported in delivering HARP. Sheriff Leonard stated that the program could use additional funding and staff support, but the program has community volunteers that provide various services including tattoo removal. Chesterfield is one of only 13 localities to get a federal grant which has helped offset costs.
- n. Ms. Hilliard detailed a new initiative with George Mason University, the Empowered Communities Opioid Project that will cover the cost of hiring 3 peer recovery staff.
- o. Sheriff Leonard stated the work begins when people leave the jail. Chesterfield has a robust reentry program and because of grant funding the program can put a former inmate into a transition home for 30 days and make sure they have appropriate identification and healthcare documentation.
- p. Mr. Hughey inquired about whether there are any corporate partners for the HARP program and Sheriff Leonard stated that the office has created a 501C3 called HARP RVA.
- q. Mr. Bondurant inquired about what the criteria for releasing someone who admitted themselves in the program would be. Sheriff Leonard explained that the program is voluntary, and judges can't court order people. There is no credit for participating in the program inmates cannot get time off their sentence. Ms. Hilliard added that non-inmates are escorted in and out of the jail after the programs they attend.
- r. Ms. Mills inquired about the MAT waiver and Ms. Hillard stated that it is a federal waiver that will no longer be needed at the end of this year increasing access to vivitrol, suboxone, and methadone.

3. Economic update/ FY2024 Budget process

- a. Mr. Oakley provided an economic update on CPI, consumer sentiment, GDP, and unemployment
- b. Mr. Johnson asked what would be considered full employment for the County. Mr. Oakley stated that a comfortable rate would be 3-3.5 percent.
- c. Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) process in underway with bond referendum projects included. The committee will receive information about CIP in January.
- d. Mr. Johnson asked about first quarter projections for FY2023 and year-end results for FY2022. Mr. Oakley shared that those would be topics in future meetings.
- e. Mr. Johnson inquired about soccer tournaments and sports tourism. Mr. Oakley shared that tournant activity is rising.
- f. Mr. Eudailey asked about the status of the water park construction. Mr. Oakley shared that the construction is underway.
- g. Ms. Mills asked for an update on Nash and Beach Road improvement projects. This project is currently in the right of way/ engineering phase.
- h. Mr. Eudailey asked about the Citizen's Budget Advisory meeting schedule and Mr. Oakley stated that the plan is to meet monthly.

- i. Mr. Eudailey inquired about alternative funding methods for Fire if the SAFE grant is not received and Mr. Oakley stated that the Budget Office has not seen a proposal from Fire but if the grant isn't received the County will explore other options.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am